

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80527-2400

Atty Docket No.: 200400253-1

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Inventor(s):** Shaun Kazuo WAKUMOTO      **Confirmation No.:** 2771  
**Serial No.:** 10/812,260      **Examiner:** Warner WONG  
**Filed:** March 29, 2004      **Group Art Unit:** 2416  
**Title:** DIRECTED COST PROTOCOL

**MAIL STOP RCE**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING**  
**A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action dated April 2, 2009, kindly amend the application identified above as follows. In the following, underlines indicate insertions and strikethroughs and double brackets indicate deletions.